

REMARKS

The Office Action dated November 17, 2005, has been received and carefully noted. The following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1, 2 and 5 are canceled. No new matter has been added. Thus, claims 3-4 and 6-8 are pending in the present application.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 since this Amendment: (a) places the application in condition for allowance for reasons discussed herein; (b) does not raise any new issue regarding further search and/or consideration since the Amendment amplifies issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; (c) does not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally-rejected claims; and (d) places the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The Amendment is necessary because it is made in reply to arguments raised in the rejection. Entry of the Amendment is thus respectfully requested.

Allowed Claims

Applicants appreciate the allowance of claims 3-4 and 6-8.

Rejection of Claims 1-2 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-2 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter "AAPA"). Claims 1-2 and 5 have been canceled to obviate this rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

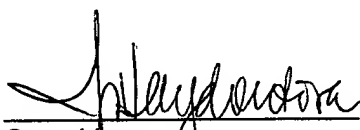
Conclusion

In view of the above, the Applicants respectfully request the allowance of claims 3-4 and 6-8 and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability for all pending claims in the present application.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket No. 100353-00039.

Respectfully submitted,


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Enclosure: Petition for Extension of Time (two months)